

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (Canceled)

12. (New) An assembly for removing chips from a cutting tool working area on a workpiece, said assembly comprising:

5 an axially expandable and collapsible tubular member including a first end and a second end;

a support structure for supporting said first end of said axially expandable and collapsible tubular member;

10 a cross-piece for supporting said second end of said axially expandable and collapsible tubular member;

at least one biasing spring being configured and arranged for resiliently biasing said support structure and said cross-piece away from one another;

15 a housing having a chips-receiving chamber located adjacent one of said first end and said second end for engagement with the working area of the workpiece, said chips-receiving chamber including an outlet being configured to be connected to a vacuum source for removing a plurality of chips from said chamber; and

a hub portion located at an other of said first end and said second end, said hub portion being configured for engagement with a cutting machine.

20 13. (New) The assembly of claim 12, wherein at least one said biasing spring constitutes said axial expandable and collapsible tubular member, at least one said biasing spring is configured as a telescopic resilient spring made of a helically wound strip.

25 14. (New) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said support structure is carrying said housing with said chips-receiving chamber and is arranged to be fixated close to the working area of the workpiece, said cross-piece is carrying said hub portion for a biased engagement with the cutting machine.

30 15. (New) The assembly of claim 14, wherein said at least one biasing spring includes at least one pneumatic telescopic cylinder unit attached at one end thereof to said support structure, said pneumatic telescopic cylinder unit attached at an other end thereof to said cross-piece.

 16. (New) The assembly of claim 15, wherein at least one said pneumatic telescopic
35 cylinder unit is arranged on each side of said tubular member.

 17. (New) The assembly of claim 12, wherein said cross-piece carries said housing with said chips-receiving chamber for a biased engagement with the working area of the workpiece, said support structure is configured to be mounted to an axially movable, non-rotating component
40 of the cutting machine, said support structure is carrying said hub portion adjacent a spindle of the cutting machine.

 18. (New) The assembly of claim 17, further including a plurality of guide members being attached to said support structure and said cross-piece to facilitate a mutual linear
45 displacement of said support structure and said cross-piece.

19. (New) The assembly of claim 18, wherein said support structure includes a U- shaped bracket with a plurality of side legs interconnected by said hub portion, each of said plurality of side leg provided with a section for fixation of said support structure to a non-rotating component
50 of the cutting machine.

20. (New) The assembly of claim 19, wherein said cross-piece includes a yoke member with said housing located centrally on said yoke member, said plurality of guide members includes a plurality of guide rods attached to opposite end sections of said yoke member, said
55 plurality of guide members attached to said support structure for interaction with said plurality of guide rods.

21. (New) The assembly of claim 18, wherein said at least one biasing spring includes at least one pneumatic telescopic cylinder unit attached at one end thereof to said support structure,
60 at least one said pneumatic telescopic cylinder unit attached at an other end thereof to said cross-piece.

22. (New) The assembly of claim 21, wherein at least one said pneumatic telescopic cylinder unit is arranged on each side of said tubular member.